

I wish to object to the BellSouth petition asking the FCC to stop regulating broadband service.

As a consumer, I have first-hand experience of the practices some phone companies have used to try to gain unfair advantage over independent ISPs. Regulation is needed to ensure that the broadband market is open to all ISPs and not just the subsidiaries or affiliates of the companies owning the physical network.

BellSouth's argument that the market is little impacted because their affiliated ISP already controls a huge majority of the market is illogical. If anything, it suggests that regulation has not been as effective as it could be. The fact that they control most of the market is not an argument for giving them additional advantage over the competition they still do or could have.

The privatizing of previously public utilities such as phones and electricity must be regulated--to ensure healthy free enterprise where all companies are free to compete in a fair market.

Thank you.